

MEXICO'S COMMENTS TO PROPOSED THEMES FOR UNEA-4

- The Permanent Mission of Mexico thanks the UNEP Secretariat for the preparation of the conceptual note with possible themes for UNEA-4.
- The link between biodiversity and agriculture is at the center of several global agendas, including the Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 of the Convention on Biological Diversity, the strategic framework reviewed by FAO 2010-2019 and the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.
- There is no doubt that meeting the growing global demand for food and halting the loss of biodiversity are two key elements for human well-being. Too often, these two needs are seen as opposing each other. Biodiversity, in addition to contributing to food security by providing a variety of plant and animal foods of domestic and wild origin, can serve as a safety net for vulnerable households, offer income opportunities to low-income communities in rural areas and maintain productive ecosystems.
- We depend on ecosystem services and genetic resources for different human activities. It is possible to satisfy the global demands of food in a sustainable way, but this requires highly productive scenarios and other measures that substitute the expansion of the agricultural frontier at the expense of natural ecosystems.
- Mexico requests that the Secretariat expand the current conceptual note to include the environmental challenges and opportunities in the context of the proposed theme of food and nature/biodiversity.
- Taking note of the interest of other groups in the issue of innovation, Mexico also requests that the Secretariat includes a section on how to address innovation in both original themes proposed by the UNEP Secretariat.
- The Mexican delegation is in the best disposition to exchange ideas with other delegations on the ideal theme for the Fourth UNEA, restating its preference for the consideration of the theme of biodiversity. Mexico is flexible on the formulations of the theme and the title to take into account the interest of different delegations and regions.